

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 XMB-02 AID-05

SY-05 FBIE-00 /089 W

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P R 232115Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1251

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONGEN PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L N V E O R G E T O W N 0 7 7 3

CINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR,N6

SUBJECT: BURNHAM SAYS HE PLANS ORTHODOX SOCIALISM FOR GUYANA; DAMNS
PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

1. SUMMARY: PM BURNHAM IN PUBLIC SPEECH CATEGORICALLY PLACED HIM-
SELF IN ORTHODOX SOCIALIST CAMP, EXPLAINING THAT CO-OPERATIVE
SOCIALISM WAS DIFFERENT ONLY AS MEANS OF ATTAINING SOCIALISM. HE
LAMBASTED CONCEPT AND PRACTITIONERS OF FREE ENTERPRISE, LABELED
THEM AS GUYANA'S ENEMIES, AND CALLED ON HOST JAYCEES TO CUT TIES
WITH PARENT BODY IN U.S. OR RENOUNCE OBJECTIVE THAT ECONOMIC
JUSTICE CAN BEST BE WON BY FREE MEN IN FREE ENTERPRISE. SPEECH
CONFIRMS OTHER INDICATIONS OF BURNHAM'S AND PNC LEADERS
INCREASINGLY RADICAL SOCIALISM. EMBASSY SPECULATES THAT ENEMIES
WARNED AGAINST PERHAPS SET UP AS STRAW MEN AND THAT CRITICISM
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OF CARICOM NEIGHBORS AS NOT BEING TRULY SOCIALIST MAY RESULT

FROM SELF IMAGE AS CARIBBEAN LEADER TO RADICAL SOCIALISM OR AS
REACTION HB THEIR CRITICISM. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

2. PM FORBES BURNHAM IN PUBLIC SPEECH IN BAUXITE TOWN OF LINDEN,
ORGANIZED BY LOCAL JAYCEES MAY 22, MADE MOST CATEGORIC PUBLIC STATE-
MENT YET OF HIS IDEOLOGICAL ANTIPATHY TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND
HIS INTENTION OF LEADING GUYANA INTO SOCIALIST CAMP. ACCORDING
LOCAL PAPERS, WHICH PUBLISHED SPEECH ON QUOTE A SOCIALIST GUYANA
IN THE CARIBBEAN UNQUOTE AS HEADLINE STORY MAY 23, HE WARNED
AUDIENCE THAT POWERFUL CAPITALIST SYSTEM AGAINST WHICH GUYANA IS
FIGHTING WOULD NOT TAKE GUYANA'S ENTRY INTO SOCIALIST CAMP LYING
DOWN, SINCE SUCCESSFUL SOCIALISM IN GUYANA WOULD CAUSE
QUOTE DOMINO THEORY TO OBTAIN IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD UN-
QUOTE. IF GUYANA WERE ABLE TO PERSUADE BY EXAMPLE ITS CARICOM
BROTHERS TO TURN TO THE ROAD TO SOCIALISM, ACCORDING TO BURNHAM,
THE CAPITALISTS WOULD TRY TO ENSURE THAT QUOTE WE MUST BE DESTROYED
UNQUOTE. AS EXAMPLE OF SUBTLE TACTICS OF QUOTE ENEMY UNQUOTE,
BURNHAM CITED USE OF SPYS PLANTED BY FBI IN U.S. TO PROVIDE
INFORMATION LEADING TO DESTRUCTION OF BLACK PANTHERS.

3. BURNHAM TOOK PAINS TO DISABUSE AUDIENCE OF IDEA THAT CO-
OPERATIVE SOCIALISM OF GUYANA WAS DIFFERENT FROM ORTHODOX SOCIA-
LISM (ONE PAPER USED THE TERM COMMUNISM). HE REPORTEDLY STATED QUOTE
IF THERE BE ANYONE WHO BELIEVES THAT BECAUSE WE TALK OF CO-OPERA-
TIVE SOCIALISM, OUR OBJECTIVE IN SO FAR AS ESTABLISHING SOCIALISM
IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ANY OTHER SOCIALISTS, YOU ARE MISTAKEN.
AND IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO SHARE IN SOCIALIST
OBJECTIVE,
THEN, UNTIL THE TIME WE HAVE EDUCATED YOU, THE PNC IS NOT THE
PLACE FOR YOU UNQUOTE. HE SAID THAT THE ONLY WAY THAT HIS CONCEPT OF
SOCIALISM WAS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ANY OTHER SOCIALIST WAS THE BE-
LIEF THAT SOCIALISM IN GUYANA COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE
INSTRUMENT OF THE CO-OPERATIVE.
HE ELABORATED THAT THE BELIEF OF SOME TYPE
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIALISM IS
A NEW TYPE OF SOCIALISM IS ERRONEOUS,
ADDING AT ANOTHER POINT THAT HE ACCEPTED LENIN'S THESIS THAT
IMPERIALISM WAS A DEVELOPED FORM OF CAPITALISM AND THAT THE
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ENVITABLE TRIUMPH OF SOCIALISM WAS A NATURAL DEVELOPMENT.
WHILE GUYANA WAS NOT A SOCIALIST STATE, IT WAS A COUNTRY, LED
BY A SOCIALIST PARTY WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF MAKING IT A SOCIALIST
STATE, ACCORDING TO BURNHAM.

4. BURNHAM USED JAYCEE'S FORUM TO ATTACK AN OBJECTIVE OF JAYCEE'S
MOVEMENT WHICH HE SAID STATES THAT ECONOMIC JUSTICE CAN BEST BE
WON BY FREE MEN IN FREE ENTERPRISE. HE CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT

IF JAYCEES WANTED TO PLAY A PART IN CHANGE WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE IN GUYANA, THEY MUST EITHER DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM PARENTBODY IN U.S. OR REWRITE THAT PARTICULAR OBJECTIVE. HE PREDICTED THAT THE LOCAL JAYCEES MOVEMENT WOULD ONE DAY BE CALLED UPON BY ITS PARENTBODY TO OPPOSE WHAT THEY WOULD REGARD AS QUOTE THE SOCIALIST DICTATORSHIP WHICH THE PNC IS TRYING TO ESTABLISH IN GUYANA UNQUOTE.

5. BURNHAM ALSO THREW OUT VEILED WARNING TO OTHER CRICOM COUNTRIES THAT GUYANA WOULD CONTINUE AS A MEMBER OF CARICOM ONLY IF SUCH MEMBERSHIP DID NOT CAUSE IT TO COMPROMISE ITS SOCIALIST OBJECTIVES AND MADE DISIRRAGING ALLUSION TO GENUINNESS OF JAMAICA'S COMMITMENT TO SOCIALISM.

END UNCLASSIFIED

6. SOURCE IN PM'S OFFICE TOLD DCM THAT SPEECH WAS EXTEMPORANEOUS AND ALSO THAT IT WAS MADE FROM NOTES AND THAT TEXT IS, THEREFORE, UNAVAILABLE. ANOTHER GOG SOURCE TOLD PAO THAT TRANSCRIPT BEING PREPARED FROM TAPE, BUT THAT IT WILL BE SENT TO PM'S OFFICE FOR MINOR EDITING AND QUOTE EMBELLISHING UNQUOTE BEFORE BEING RELEASED AND THAT PROESS MAY TAKE TWO WEEKS. WHEN AND IF WE OBTAIN TRANSCRIPT, WE WILL ANALYZE IT FURTHER AND FORWARD TO DEPT.

7. COMMENT. PRELIMINARYHLOCAL REACTION SEEMS TO CONFIRM OUR BELIEF THAT RATHER VIRULENT SPEECH MARKS FURTHER STEP BY BURNHAM TOWARD PUBLICLY PLACING HIMSELF MORE SOLIDLY IN IDEOLOGICAL SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST CAMP. IT APPEARS TO BE PUBLIC AFFIRMATION OF WHAT WE UNDERSTAND HE HAS BEEN SAYING PRIVATELY WITHIN PNC AND GOG CIRCLES. ALLUSIONS TO FOREIGN FREE ENTERPRISE ENEMIES AND CONFRONTATION PROBABLY INTENDED AS STRAW MEN TO DIVERT LOCAL CRITICISM. CRITICISMOF LACK OF SOCIALIST COMMITMENT OF CARICOM PARTNERS MAY BE REACTION TO POSSIBLE FOREIGN CRITICISM OF GUYANA'S RADICAL COURSE OR COULD BE INDICATION BURNHAMSEES HIMSELF AS CONFIDENTIAL

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CHARISMATIC LEADER LIGHTING WAY TO RADICAL SOCIALIST FUTURE FOR CARIBBEAN. SPEECH ALSO CONTAINS INFERENCE THAT BURNHAM'S CELEBRATED PRAGMATISM MAY GIVE WAY TO MORE AUTHORITARIAN BEHAVIOR TO EXTENT HE ENCOUNTERS RESISTANCE OR PASSIVISM ALONG ROAD TO HIS GOAL. IN THIS REGARD, A BACKWARD GLANCE AT JAGAN'S PERFORMANCE IN POWER (1954-64) CAN BE REWARDING.
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